

THE OBSERVER


**SAINT
JOSEPH'S
COLLEGE**
INDIANA
Involved For Life

VOLUME 70

April 1, 2004

Issue 11



From SJC to Egypt: A New Experience For All

By Katie Davet, Reporter

During Spring Break this year, two Saint Joseph's College students and one professor boarded a flight for a trip to Egypt. The trip lasted for ten days and was an exciting experience for all. Students participating on the trip were senior Greg Rathnow and junior Brian Bugajski. Assistant Professor of History Susan Chattin was in charge of this year's trip and accompanied the students. "I've always wanted to travel abroad, and since I'm a history major I was interested in seeing the sphinx and pyramids, the only remnants of the seven wonders of the ancient world," Bugajski said. Even at \$1,600 including plane tickets, train tickets, hotels,

transportation, food, and souvenirs, the trip was still well worth it.

The students were open and willing to experience a new environment. "I've never been to Africa before. I really wasn't fearful of anything; I trusted Professor Chattin and her travel experience. I knew we were going to be in good hands," Bugajski said. Some of the cities in Egypt that were visited were Cairo, the location of the great pyramids, and Luxor. Other high points of the trip were visiting the Valley of Kings, eating the traditional Egyptian meals, and interacting with other American tourists. The group also was able to take a sailboat ride down the

Nile River. After adjusting to the new environment, the students gained many things from their experience. "I learned to speak a little bit of Arabic, but I still can't translate any. The food was really good, especially the Schwerma. Schwerma is like a pita with either chicken or beef that has been roasted on a spit all day long, mixed with tomatoes, onions, and a green leaf that I think was cilantro," Bugajski said.

The group found the Egyptian people to be very friendly and helpful. "Even if we looked uncomfortable to the Egyptians - even though we were total strangers - they would go out of their way to make us feel comfortable,"

Bugajski said. The eight-hour time difference was the only part of the trip the group found bothersome.

Overall, everyone who went on the Spring Break trip to Egypt seems to have had an excellent time. There were lots of landmarks to visit and people to interact with, which made their trip relaxing and enjoyable. "I would go back in an instant. I love the scenery and the people; there's nothing like eating lunch across from a 3,000-year-old temple surrounded by palm trees. I loved every minute of it," Bugajski said.

For more information concerning SJC trips abroad, contact Chattin.

Photos courtesy of Bugajski.

NEWS

FEAST OF SAINT JOSEPH

LEGENDARY MATH THESIS

FEATURES

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
TRIP TO TEXAS

"MATRIX: RELOADED"
MOVIE REVIEW

SPORTS

HEALTH UPDATE: SPRING
ALLERGIES

SOFTBALL PROFILE

OPINION

TERRORISM REFLECTION

ET CETERA
PUMA POETRY

War on Terrorism: Scare Tactics

Taken from the Weblog of Phil Schroeder, 3/15/04:

"Let me start out by saying that I could never condone massive acts of violence on groups of people. Not now, not ever. Terrorism is wrong. It always will be. It defies every defensible religion's main tenets. It's simply abominable.

But I can see why they do it.

Three days after terrorist groups caused a massive explosion in Spain, resulting in roughly 200 casualties, the terrorists got what they wanted. The Socialists flooded into power. Spanish troops will almost surely be pulled from Iraq. Most everyone attributes this upset (the incumbent Popular party had a solid lead in polls prior to the attack) to the bombing. The Socialists promised to pull troops out of Iraq, and terrorists beat the Spanish people into submission. A sort of victory by attrition, if you will. Attrition of will, if anything.

I see two solutions to the problem, one of which will never happen. I'm talking about taking the backhandedness out of leadership. I'm speaking to both sides of the coin. I'm speaking of corrupt politicians who will sell damn near anything for almighty votes. I'm speaking of power-hungry dictators who murder at will to put the

fear of God/Nation in their citizens. Once this stops, once egos are put aside, terrorism will stop.

Obviously this will never happen. If it were possible, the Bible'd have a different ending, and the words 'Native American,' 'the English,' and 'Russia' would taste much different coming out of our mouths. But...human nature, and all that shit.

The only other option that I can see, outside of gathering all the terrorists (Are you a terrorist? Check here for 'yes'...) on one island and spending our remaining WMDs on them, is to simply take away all of their validity. They bomb mass transportation to get troops out of Iraq? Tough shit. Take aim at our national landmarks killing thousands at a time? You're not going to get what you want.

Neither will we sit idly by. We'll make damn sure that you have to work to strike again. Eventually you'll understand ... your methods will not bury us. We'll continue to turn the other cheek, letting your kin take refuge inside our walls. But we will not stop freeing your countrymen from ruthless dictators who have no business imposing their brutal ways upon people whose only

crimes are to be born into a certain life. That is what we want. Freedom for all. Your scare tactics, while impressive, are futile.

Hopefully, the rest of the world doesn't steal from the Spanish playbook. (Well, first of all, hopefully the rest of the world doesn't have to experience the pain that the Spanish people are going through. Ever.) We're never going to be able to 'round up all of al Queda.' CNN terrorist expert Peter Bergen said it best: 'This is not like the Gambino crime family, a Mafia family, where if you just arrest the leaders it goes out of business.

This is more like a mass movement, and you can arrest as many people as you want. But it's very hard to arrest the movement of ideas.' A 'war on terrorism' won't work if by 'war' you mean 'go out and get the terrorists.' It will only work by making it so that, when trying to get your political point across, terror isn't a viable option.

And, while I don't agree with most of the methods our administration is employing, I do believe that we are moving toward that goal."

Congratulations to the winner of the

Card Night game *Texas Hold-em*,

freshman **Dane Brown!**



For rules and strategy for Texas Hold-em, visit <http://www.texasholdem-poker.com/beginnersintro.php>

Tired of getting your news from CNN.com, ABC, FoxNews, or CNET? Why not try visiting a parody site like The Onion? Or tuning into The Daily Show on Comedy Central? The following sites, although providing "real" news, aren't afraid of showing subjectivity, sarcasm, satire or just plain silliness:

- * <http://www.theonion.com>
- * <http://www.thefakenews.com>

- * <http://shtick.org/FakeNews/>
- * <http://www.theskinnyonline.com/>

Although these sites are intended purely for entertainment (and, at times, to illustrate strong viewpoints or the lackthereof), not everyone finds them amusing. There are several complaints and rebukes concerning these controversial websites:

- * <http://www.kuro5hin.org/>

story/2003/7/1/22182/07525

- * <http://www.cnn.com/TECH/9708/20/site.seer.parody/>

Some people have even taken the "fake news" to a new and unprofessional level-- and have been punished for doing so:

- * http://www.editorandpublisher.com/eandp/departments/online/article_display.jsp?vnu_content_id=1000457061

Don't forget to support the cast of "*Anything Goes*" this weekend! April 1, 2, 3 at 8:00 in the College Theatre. Admission is free to SJC students, faculty, and staff! \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for students for those not affiliated with the College.

PAWS:

...to everyone who was involved in the new look of the Halleck Student Center.

...to the Rensselaer Pizza Hut for starting a delivery service to the College.



CLAWS:

...to people who leave their car alarms blaring all night in the student parking lots.

...to the people who double park and block other cars in for extended periods of time.

Observer Staff

Editors in Chief

Bridget Newman
Becky Scherer

News Editors

Renee Pugh
Becky Scherer

Opinion Editor

Becky Scherer

Features Editor

Natalie Lapacek

Sports Editor

Bridget Newman

Et Cetera Editor

Sandra Wood

Contributors

Melissa Alba
Kyle Bender
Sarah Bozenda
Brian Bugajski
Katie Davet
Allison Glidewell
Katie Grgic
Natalie Lapacek
Joe Larson
Liz Henning
Adam Mandon
Bridget Newman
Becky Scherer
Phil Schroeder
Danny Waclaw
Anna Westwood
Jen Zak

Circulation Manager

Lance Crow

Faculty Facilitator

Dr. Charles Kerlin

Publisher

Dr. Ernest Mills III

Questions? Comments?

observer-editors@saintjoe.edu

Student Researches Mathematical Theory

By Becky Scherer, *Editor in Chief*

SJC senior Jeff Deardurff, math major, recently had the opportunity to conduct research on the Reimann Hypothesis in conjunction with his Historical Perspectives in Mathematics class. In order to better understand the Hypothesis and its components, Deardurff spoke with Dr. Louis de Branges de Bourcia, graduate professor at Purdue University. De Branges is a world-renowned mathematician and has several significant mathematical proofs under his belt.

The Reimann Hypothesis is a mathematical formula that can, if proven, tell us how many prime numbers lie between zero and any given number, prime numbers being those that only divide by one and themselves. "The significance of primes is that they are the building blocks of all numbers," Deardurff said. "Every number is a combination of prime numbers."

The significance of the Reimann Hypothesis being proven does not lie only in the interests of mathematicians. "Prime numbers not only tell us everything we as mathematicians need to know about numbers in general, but the very idea of them extends elsewhere," said Deardurff. In the in-

stance of encryption and wartime messages sent in encrypted characters, the Hypothesis will make it easier to substitute numbers for letters, thus preventing unwanted interception. Even in every day behavior the validity of the Hypothesis will be beneficial. Computer systems run off a language consisting of zeros and ones, both of which are prime numbers. "Should the Reimann Hypothesis be proven true, it will shed light on the future of our lives. Should it proven false ... no computer will run in the same way, thus bringing devastating effects on our technology-dependent world," Deardurff said.

Although the Reimann Hypothesis has tormented mathematicians for centuries, de Branges is confident in the accuracy of his potential solution. His work with the formula began twenty years ago, and in that time he has submitted two proofs of solution, both of which contained unforeseen mathematical errors. He has now revised his proof and is positive he has it right. There is a long list of mathematicians who have attempted to solve this troubling problem, including Johann Carl Friedrich Gauss and John Nash, and the issues it brings along with it



Deardurff and de Branges. Photo courtesy of Deardurff.

have even served as the premise of a recent major motion picture ("A Beautiful Mind").

As an incentive and prize, Cambridge University is offering one million dollars to the person who can prove or disprove the Hypothesis, since it has been the greatest unsolved mystery in mathematics for so long. Deardurff is confident in his belief that the winner will be de Branges. He said, "My talk with him not only further intrigued me

to investigate the Reimann Hypothesis, but he is an inspiration to all mathematicians." According to Deardurff, de Branges said of his work, "It's not about the money or the fame. The fact that I was able to contribute something to the field of mathematics is the greatest reward of all." Should he win the prize from Cambridge, de Branges plans to donate the money towards the erection of a mathematics building at a French university.

SJC Zoology Class Explores New Habitats

By Becky Scherer, *Publications and Media Relations Intern*

For this year's spring break, SJC Professor of Biology and Environmental Science Dr. Robert Brodman accompanied five students from his Invertebrate Zoology class to the Gulf Coast in order to study marine biology and estuary habitats. The group visited Mobile Bay, Alabama, and Grand Bay, Mississippi.

Brodman's objective for the trip was to allow his students to study habitats not native to central Indiana. "I wanted to give them exposure and open them up to different things they might not see every day," he said.

The trip was made possible in part by Dr. Tim Rice, a Biology professor at the University of Southern Alabama and a friend and colleague of

Brodman's. Since this was the first time Brodman had ever planned a trip of this kind, Rice played a big part in helping to set up and secure areas where the group would be able to conduct research. He also organized a tour of the university's facilities and allowed the group from SJC to spend a day in his labs while Brodman con-

"I wanted to give them exposure and open them up to different things they might not see every day."

-- Dr. Robert Brodman

ducted a biology seminar for the university students. "Visiting the university was a great experience for the students," Brodman said. "They made lots of contacts and saw some graduate school opportunities while getting to work with different lab equipment and facilities than those that we have at SJC."

Headed out with the intent to

study sea creatures such as oysters, clams, crabs, shrimp, and snails, the group also brought back several specimens of each for further lab study. Freshman Biology major and trip participant Cassie Fowler, "The highlight of the trip for me was seeing a baby diamond terrapin, which is an endangered turtle native to that area. It's rare to see them, but we spotted one." She added, "It was interesting and beneficial ... to find and classify the organisms on our own rather than studying from a textbook or listening to a lecturer."

Brodman is pleased with the success of the trip and plans to conduct another in two years, when the Invertebrate Zoology course is offered once again.

SJC's Namesake: Saint Joseph, Father of Jesus

By Allison Glidewell, *Reporter*

The Feast of Saint Joseph was celebrated both nationally and by Saint Joseph's College on March 19th, and the SJC community honored its namesake through prayer, feasting, fellowship, and reflection on the saint. Joseph was the adoptive father of Jesus and the husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary. He is the patron saint for workers, carpenters, married couples, and individuals in doubt, among others.

Most biographical information about Saint Joseph comes from the Gospels. According to Matthew and Luke, he was a descendant of King David and resided in Nazareth. A carpenter by trade, Joseph was a pious Jew who was betrothed to Mary when the Immaculate Conception took place. Though cultural norms

would dictate that Joseph scorn Mary since the pregnancy was of dubious origin, Joseph instead married her and served as the earthly father of Jesus. Christians world-wide look to Joseph as a symbol of unwavering faith and fidelity.

Though the Gospels offer only a small glimpse of Joseph's life, church tradition and apocryphal texts attempt to fill in some of the gaps in his biography. These texts suggest that Joseph may have been married for forty-nine years to a woman named Melcha and that he had several children with her, including Jesus' brother James. These sources also speculate that Joseph was widowed and was close to ninety when he was asked to marry the fourteen-year-old Mary. Since Joseph is

not mentioned in the Scriptures after the twelve-year-old Jesus preaches in the temple, some scholars believe that he probably died soon after, leaving Mary to raise the child alone.

Joseph's exact date of canonization is difficult to attain because the church was still in its early stages when it began recognizing him. Scholars can gather that his name started appearing in martyrologies in the West in the eighth and ninth centuries; Coptic churches celebrated his feast day starting in the fourth century. Saint Joseph's College continues this tradition every year through its feast in the cafeteria and its prayer service in the Core lobby. The College honors Joseph for his selfless desire to accept Jesus as his

own son and for his willingness to remain faithful to Mary at the risk of looking foolish.



Habitat For Humanity Goes to Austin

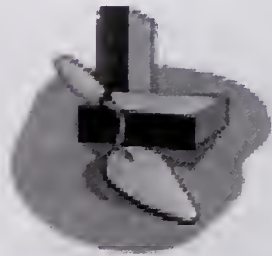
By Katie Grgic, Staff Writer

Over Spring Break, many went to places warmer than the Midwest and far more recreational and relaxing than home. Some went to Florida, others, like me, went to South Carolina, etc. However, a select group of people chose to do something meaningful with their Spring Break: some members of Habitat For Humanity chose to dedicate their break to volunteerism in Austin, Texas.

Eleven people from SJC's chapter of Habitat For Humanity worked in conjunction with Austin volunteers to build a colligate house for Habitat For Humanity. One of the eleven SJC students who participated was senior Mike Wallach, his first trip with Habitat For Humanity. According to Wallach, his job for most of the week consisted of roofing. He said, "I helped measure, cut pieces, and assemble the roof, along with Fred Berger and Stephen Kraemer. I also did random jobs in and outside of the house."

Manual labor and service on vacation? Not many people would choose this as their way of spending their Spring Break. When asked why he chose to spend his break this way, Wallach replied, "I will be joining a service group upon graduation such as Americorps and I knew a trip like this would help me better prepare for a year of service. Having my two Communications professors also helped in my decision to take part in such an amazing trip. I highly recommend a trip such as this to any student interested in making a difference in the world."

If spending your vacation in Fort Meyers is not an option for you next year, consider service a reasonable alternative. Not only do you get to spend your break away from home, you get to make a difference and better people's lives as well.



If you are interested in writing for the Features section e-mail Natalie Lapacek:
nli4438@saintjoe.edu

Have You Met Miss Jones? Norah Jones CD Review

By Danny Waclaw, Staff Writer

After two years of anxious waiting by audiences everywhere, five time Grammy winner and platinum artist Norah Jones has exploded back onto the music scene with her new album *Feels Like Home*, just recently released in February of this year. Though her first album was exceptional, her sophomore album proves to be even better.

Admittedly, the first time I listened to the CD, I was appalled by Jones's almost complete "c o u n t r y - f i c a t i o n . " As I listened to the CD more and more, however, I found that the daughter of sixties sitarist Ravi Shankar—yes,

George Harrison's teacher—was going back to her roots in these smooth and simple *chansons*.

The first track "Sunrise" starts the album both lyrically and musically by depicting a sunrise and the rebirth of a dormant world. "What Am I to You?" almost starts like "Turn Me On" from her first album, but then goes into a bluesy grassroots ballad about a woman's frustration with her beloved. Perhaps one of her prettiest songs, "Those Sweet Words," touches again on a relationship, though switching the tables between the man and the woman from "What Am I to You?". Here, they both love each other, but the man sings it secretly while the woman confronts him with it.

An interesting addition to the album is the seventh track "Creepin' In,"



a compilation with none other than Dolly Parton! Definitely different from any other track on this album or her last, it is a celebration of Jones's transition to a more grassroots feel in her music. My second favorite song on the album, "The Prettiest Thing," depicts a stationary individual trying to make movement in a purposeful motion.

The song is very reminiscent of my second favorite song on her last album, "Feelin' the Same Way," which, though some have said is about a hangover, is actually about immobility and lack of change in one's life.

The album finishes with a lullaby-esque ballad "Don't Miss You at All" by

Duke Ellington. Jones wrote her own lyrics to the song and plays a simple jazzy piano accompaniment. Though evocative of "The Nearness of You"—a Hoagy Carmichael tune from her last album—this new breed seems to show off Jones's artistic maturity. She has found her niche, this easy-flowing, melodious symphony of thoughts and phrases and everything in between. Through her hallmark intermixing of genres, she has created a sound completely her own. For an artist who didn't plan on being in the limelight, she has certainly created music that everyone loves. Perhaps she will purposefully escape from the public eye someday, but even then, she will be out there, making music that people will listen to and, more importantly, that she will enjoy making.

Musical Review:

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change

By Melissa Alba, Staff Writer

Love — it's the stuff most musicals are made of. Look at them all - *Grease* with goody-goody Sandy Dumbrowski and not-so-bad boy Danny Zuko, *Guys and Dolls* with dumb blonde Adelaide and smooth-talking sweetie Nathan Detroit... musicals love to sing about love! Yet the book and lyrics by Joe DiPietro, music by Jimmy Roberts, *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* takes a love story and makes it brutally honest. They sing what we are all thinking - from preparing for a first date (Prologue/Cantata for a First Date) to chick flicks that guys just hate (Tear Jerk).

The musical is a series of songs and comical sketches about the interpersonal relationships of life. Act I is about the common and not-so-common mishaps of dating; Act II is about marriage, raising kids, divorce, remarriage, and a number of other topics. The cast is comprised of two women and two men, and the accompaniment provided by a pianist and violinist. Most of the music is fantastic, and the

cast members have good voices and great comedic timing. My favorite number has to be "Always A Bridesmaid," a lament by a frequent wedding witness whose hideous gowns have longer life spans than the marriages to which they were worn. ("For Tabatha, I wore taffeta. You should never: people laugh at ya.") Other favorites include "Single Man Drought," about two women on dates from hell, "Tear Jerk," in which a macho guy gets dragged to a "chick flick" movie, and "I Can Live With That," the musical conclusion to a great scene where two elderly people flirt at a funeral.

I certainly recommend this to anyone who has shaken his or her head at the lunacy of dating or maintaining a relationship in today's world. *I Love You...is* fun, fast, and surprisingly catchy! It is such a perfect musical about situations in which we've all been; the song lyrics are ones that hit home. You'll leave thinking...were they talking about me?

Styling Sense Updating Your Look



Jen Zak
Columnist

They say that imitation is the highest form of flattery, and if you believe that, changing your style can be easier than you think. As we move into the spring season, you might feel that your wardrobe is a bit outdated, or that it is time for a new look. The red carpet was swimming with old school Hollywood this year, and all the celebrities have developed a unique style that people can relate to.

One easy way to change your style is to change your hair cut or color. To do this, first determine the shape of your face, which is typically heart, round, square, oval, or diamond shaped. Then hunt around for looks that will flatter your face type. Don't just get a trendy cut because everyone else is doing it; pixie cuts and bobs are not for everyone!

Another way to change your look is to add a signature accessory or piece of clothing to your wardrobe. If you are fun and flirty, add a bold pair of pants to your wardrobe, or a great bracelet or necklace. Pink is the in color this season, so for the romantic and ultra-feminine, try adding a pink purse or clutch to the clean crisp cottons of this season. Many varieties of shoes are available for fashion femmes this season, and can be added to jeans or Capri's for a casual night out. If your wardrobe consists of mostly dark colors, pick one piece with a lot of color that will bring out the color of your eyes or enhance your skin tone. This is a unique year where almost any style can be re-worked and made into something fabulous; however, Hyper Color t-shirts and slouch socks will not be making an appearance on runways.



Book Review: Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil

If you've seen the movie, you only know the half of it. John Berendt's 1994 best-selling novel spent four years on the New York Times bestseller list, and was subsequently made into a movie starring Kevin Spacey and John Cusak. Read the book, and you'll understand why *The Boston Globe* called it "A glorious vanity fair of human folly." Subtitled *A Savannah Story*, the novel opens in the present-day Deep South when a New York writer visits the city and after falling in love with its eccentricities, decides to take it up as a second home. He describes his predispositions to the city: "These, then, were the images in my mental gazetteer of Savannah: rum-drinking Pirates, strong-willed women, courtly manners, eccentric behavior, gentle words, and lovely music. That and the beauty of the name itself: Savannah."

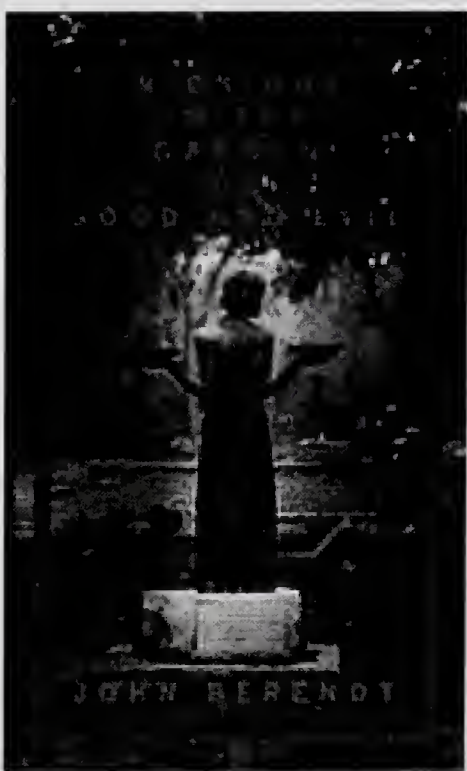
The book is a true story, presenting a bizarre cast of characters: *nouveau riche* antique dealer Jim Williams, shameless court-dodging squatter Joe Odom, former pinup beauty Serena Dawes, her unlikely beau Luther Driggers, and the absolutely unforgettable Lady Chablis. The characters in and of themselves make a fantastic story,

but add a high-profile murder laced with Southern superstition, and it's obvious why *Midnight* spent the time that it did on bestseller lists.

The movie isn't bad either. True to the book and featuring an array of cameos, Clint Eastwood's 1997 movie captures the essence of the novel – if not all of the wickedly entertaining details. The film opens with a haunting, a-cappella rendition of the song "Skylark," setting the tone for something beautiful and slightly otherworldly. Kevin Spacey turns out a fine performance as the debonair

Jim Williams, bringing to life the elusively mysterious man, and John Cusak is equally impressive as the New York writer discovering Savannah's secrets. In a scene from the film, Cusak exclaims "This place is fantastic: it's like *Gone With the Wind* on mescaline...they walk imaginary pets here...And they're all heavily armed and drunk. New York is boring!"

No offense to the Big Apple, but the Savannah so artfully and meticulously described in *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* is far more enticing than the metropolis sprawling on the Hudson.



Stuff



Brian Bugajski
Columnist

On the night of Friday March 19, 2004 a group of students armed with paintbrushes, rollers, ladders and a mix of motivating music set out to spruce up the College Theatre on the second floor of the Science Building. Yours truly was one of the students present, and I could not help but wonder about the different things that had taken place within the aging theatre since its construction in 1915.

For almost ninety years the theatre has served as the home of the Columbian Players/Literary Society, which, according to Fr. Charles Robbins C.P.P.S., author of *A Chronology of Saint Joseph's College*, was established with, "its first meeting on October 21, 1892, the day the World's Fair (Columbian Exposition) opened in Chicago in commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America." When the Columbian Players moved from "Columbian Hall" (a small library stocked with classical authors, magazines and newspapers) to the newly constructed theatre in 1915 they had to share the new space with two other campus clubs. "There were in addition two other societies, the Newman Club [for high school students] and somewhat later the Curtain Club [for the C.P.P.S. seminarians]," states the *Centennial Pictorial History of Saint Joseph's College*. One can imagine that the Columbian Players had no problem sharing the large new space as the *Centennial Pictorial History* goes on to describe the

specifics of the auditorium, "It is 60 feet long by 66 feet wide. The stage measures 37 feet at the proscenium and is 24 feet deep. The seating capacity was advertised as 720, which included the seats in the balcony, many of which have since been removed."

In 1930 the theatre saw the most performances on stage to date with four plays staged on the eve of Thanksgiving, St. Patrick's Day, Alumni Day, and Graduation. There were also full-length variety shows performed that year on Columbus Day and Washington's Birthday. Since that hectic year of 1930 the annual performances have declined in number to three a year: a fall comedy, a winter drama, and a spring musical.

During the fall of 1966 the theatre underwent a major renovation, which included repainting, new drapes and stage curtain, and carpeting. "The most extensive renovation, however, was replacement of the wooden seats by the present upholstered and cushioned seats equipped with arms for writing. A legacy of \$40,000 left to the College from the estate of Mr. Frank Nolan of Lowell, Indiana, at first designated for chapel renovation, was used to help defray expenses," acknowledges *The Chronology*. 1966 also was the year of the installment of the Tellers pipe organ (\$17,800) located in the theatre that still works today.

The theatre is currently undergoing its second "facelift" since its construction 90 years ago, thanks to a grant. A new sound system, complete with speakers, hand microphones, lavalier microphones, mix board, and C.D. player are renovations that are in place currently. The color of the theatre is in the first stages of changing from sea-foam green to "pony tail" tan with the work done on March 19th by the volunteers and will hopefully be finished by facilities in the near future.

Movie Review: Matrix Revolutions

By Joe Larson, Staff Writer

All violence is good violence. This age old adage has been proven through thousands of years of human suffering, but there are still a few rare times when not even something as beautiful as pointless destruction can improve a situation. *Matrix Revolutions* is one of those instances. Essentially, the film is a computer-animated philosophy lecture, interspersed with a few random fight scenes and a lot of bad acting. Ever since the first *Matrix* movie was released, audiences have been waiting for Neo to use his super-human powers to tear down the matrix-a virtual prison which diverts the minds of human beings as their bodies are used for batteries. Instead, directors Larry and Andy Wachowski have given the world two mediocre movies that put more and more seemingly pointless tasks between the protagonist and the wholesale destruction that he has rightfully earned. *Matrix Revolutions* jumps right into the action, assuming that the audience remembers everything from *Matrix*

Reloaded. This is convenient because the only thing I remember clearly from the second movie is that a random fifteen-minute techno dance scene is not the way to discourage people from kicking Keanu Reeves in the stomach. In *Revolutions*, the Oracle - the almighty cookie-baking prophet inside the matrix - somehow encourages Neo to avoid vanquishing the evil computer world in favor of negotiating a truce with the collective intelligence that brought about the apocalypse and enslaved humanity. The only comparison I can think of for this is if Frodo decided to share the one ring with Sauron just because the supreme lord of darkness can't be all bad. What makes even less sense is that the robots need to use humans as a power source to survive. They will now presumably use a power source that does not involve enslaving an entire species, such as coal. I'm sure that underneath all the confusing, meaningless babble concerning topics

like love, karma, and poking people in the face with high-voltage wires, there is some semblance of reason in *Revolutions* beyond making me want to kick Keanu Reeves in the stomach. Then again, maybe kicking him is the point; it might actually make him change his facial expression, although he would probably just say something stupid like, "I already knew you were going to kick me," or "There is no foot," to which I would respond by stabbing the famous non-existent spoon into his pasty white forehead. To add to the senselessness, the computers now have personalities, families, and religious beliefs (we can only hope that there are no Scientologist computers out there). The trainman, a computer program that that can hide other programs from deletion, is portrayed inside the matrix as a hobo. I'm sure that the hobo's control of the train is somehow social commentary on how the homeless should be in charge of all mass transportation. Who better to pi-

lot a 747 than a man whose sole source of sustenance is Nyquil? Since Neo is the savior of humanity, Agent Smith is designated as the anti-savior, kind of like if Jesus had an arch-nemesis who looked like a government bureaucrat and fought like a character from *Dragonball Z*. Neo must defeat Smith in order to convince the sentinels to stop their attack on Zion - the last stronghold of free humans. The primary defense of Zion consists of poorly-animated robots that have unprotected cockpits, run out of ammunition frequently, and move like heavily intoxicated gorillas. After millions of sentinels storm the dock of Zion, they seem content to swarm in circles, refusing to kill anyone important until their victims have fulfilled their essential roles in the story. Such occurrences make the *Matrix Revolutions* an illogical, unexciting, and overrated movie.

April Showers Bring May Flowers...and Allergies

Sarah Bozenda
Reporter

Accompanied with rising temperatures and blooming nature, allergies are becoming more commonplace. Allergies affect at least two out of every ten Americans. Not everyone has allergies, although they are prone to being inherited. A specific allergy is not inherited, but instead, a tendency to be allergic.

According to WebMD.com, allergies occur in people who have a hyper-alert immune system that over-reacts to a substance in the environment called an allergen. Exposure to what is normally a harmless substance, such as pollen, causes the immune system to react as if the substance is harmful.

Because there are different types of allergies, there are also different types of reactions. If the allergen is ingested, the reactions will occur in the mouth, stomach, and intestines. Reactions occur in the nose, eyes, and lungs if the allergen is in the air.

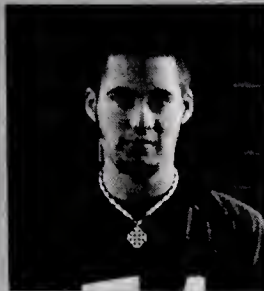
When a person with a hyper-alert immune system is exposed to an allergen, a series of events takes place. First, the body starts to produce a specific type of antibody, called IgE, to fight the allergen. Then,

the antibodies attach to a form of blood cell called a mast cell. Mast cells are plentiful in the airways, and in the GI tract where allergens tend to enter the body. Lastly, the mast cells explode releasing a variety of chemicals including histamine, which causes most of the symptoms of an allergy, including itchiness or runny nose.

Sometimes enough chemicals are released from the mast cells to cause a reaction throughout the body, such as hives, decreased blood pressure, shock, or loss of consciousness. This severe type of reaction is called anaphylaxis and can be life-threatening.

Allergy symptoms can be categorized as mild, moderate, or severe (anaphylactic). Mild reactions include those symptoms that affect a specific area of the body such as a rash or hives, itchy, watery eyes, and some congestion. Mild reactions do not spread to other parts of the body. Moderate reactions include symptoms that spread to other parts of the body; these may include itchiness or difficulty breathing. Anaphylaxis, is a rare, life-threatening emergency in which the body's response to the allergen is sudden and affects the whole body. Check with a doctor to test yourself for allergies.

Adam Mandon Speaks: On Chicago Cubs Baseball



If you want to comment on Mandon's article, send your thoughts to:

bnh3998@saintjoe.edu

The Chicago Cubs will win the World Series. It is completely inconceivable for me to think otherwise. First, let's cover the negatives. The Cubs have no leadoff hitter. Mark Grudzelanek and Todd Walker are decent at the plate, but they lack top-of-the-order speed and on-base percentages needed to instigate the offense.

On to the reasons why this team will win the World Series. First of all, the starting pitching staff is overwhelming. Anytime an opponent has to face a rotation with Mark Prior, Kerry Wood, Greg Maddux, Carlos Zambrano, and Matt Clement is just unreal. This is a staff that continues to grow and get better. Adding Maddux to the mix will throw opponents off track, as the crafty veteran mixes his low

to middle 80's fastball in among the flame-throwers.

The offense is loaded with talent. Although they lack team speed, their line-up may be the most potent in baseball. Corey Patterson, Sammy Sosa, Derek Lee, Aramis Ramirez, and Moises Alou form a core that is incomparable to the rest of baseball. This team will bludgeon pitchers with their power and patience at the plate.

The intangibles are the most important reason why Cubs will be Kings of Baseball next October. They simply are due their chance. Ninety-plus years of disappointment will not keep the 2004 Chicago Cubs from winning. Barring major injuries, the Cubs have all the tools needed to win the Series.



SJC Hosts Fourth Annual Girls Sports Day

Becky Scherer
Publications and Media Relations Intern

Approximately 150 Girl Scouts of the Sycamore Council, including Girl Scouts from a nine-county local area spanning from Crawfordsville to Demotte, gathered in the SJC Hanson Recreation Center on Feb. 20 for SJC's fourth annual Girls Sports Day. Female students from seven SJC sports ran drills and participated in sports activities with the girls while educating them about the equipment, rules, and uniforms used in each.

"I think this was the best program we've hosted in all four years," said SJC Associate Director of Athletics Linda Deno. "Most of the girls are from small towns and wouldn't have had access to these sports if not for Girls Sports Day."

The day's activities were co-sponsored by the National Collegiate Athletic Association and served as a community service project for the SJC female athletes.

Deno believes the day's events taught the participants an important lesson. "The girls learned that women do actually go on and have real careers in athletics. We showed them that women mean something in the athletic realm," Deno said.

Watch next issue for the final records of all your Puma teams and a farewell to the athletes of the class of 2004!

Photo courtesy of Breain Ma'Ayteh



SJC Sports Trivia

Compiled by Bridget Newman, Sports Editor

1-What is the name of the new head football coach:

- a) Tom Lister
- b) Tim Lester
- c) Tony Luster

2-According to the SJC website, how many of the softball players are from a state other than Indiana?

- a) 5
- b) 8
- c) 3

3-According to the SJC website, how many double headers are scheduled for the baseball team?

- a) 22
- b) 11
- c) 18

4-Athletic Director Bill Massoels graduated from SJC in 1989 with a degree in what?

- a) Physical Education
- b) Secondary Education
- c) Journalism

Answers: 1-b, 2-c, 3-a, 4-c

Michelle Hammon: A New Kid on the Softball Block

Sports: Softball
Movie: Finding Nemo
Band: Dave Matthews
Band
Food: Macaroni and
Cheese



Anna Westwood
Reporter

She's smart, friendly, hard-working and leads by example. What could you possibly not love about Michelle Hammons? Hammons, number ten, is one of the new kids on the block (the diamond, actually). She is one of the few freshmen on the Puma softball squad for the 2004 season. Hammons grew up just south of Indianapolis in Greenwood, Indiana, where she started playing softball at age six. She played all through high school at Greenwood High collecting experience and recognition along the way. Hammons, the catcher for her high school team, describes herself as a player who "stood out" because much of her team's game was "pitcher/catcher" focused. Recognized as one of the better players in the area, Hammons was named MVP her junior and senior year and also named to the All-Conference Team her freshman, junior, and senior year.

Although she was an extremely talented softball player, it was not easy for her to decide whether or not she would play in college. Not only was she a softball player, but a basketball player as well. When it came time to decide on a college, she had to choose which sport she would play. After deciding to play softball, she then looked

at what school would fit her academic and athletic needs. Hammons looked at Hanover College, Indiana State University, Franklin College, and others. Finally, though, SJC became her number one choice. She chose SJC primarily because of the overall academic program. "The academic program was great and had benefits to the major I wanted." Softball was also a major deciding point. With both academics and athletics that fit her, she knew Saint Joseph's College was where she was meant to be.

With only about a month to go and her Spring season underway, she is still happy with her decision. "I love it! I really like the small atmosphere." The team has made all the difference, she notes. Hammons describes her teammates as a family that has bonded extremely well. "I don't feel like a freshman. The team makes you feel like one of the girls. We all have a lot of respect for one another." When asked what position she played, it took a few moments for her to respond. "I've played left field and short stop, but I think the program says I'm a catcher. I'm a utility player!" As far as the team's performance thus far, she is not as enthusiastic. She feels both as an individual and as a team, they should be doing better. While she doesn't feel as though she has played to her potential, she notes that the team really pulled it together more recently. With hard work and teammates setting examples from the freshman up to the seniors, it will be exciting to see how the puma softball season turns out.

Upcoming Games, Meets & Matches

Baseball

The baseball team will be playing four away games against Oakland City on April 3rd and 4th. They play an away double header against Wisconsin-Parkside on April 7th. They take on Bellarmine at home in four games on April 9th and 10th at 12:00pm and 2:00pm each day.

Softball

The softball team will be playing double headers against Kentucky Wesleyan at home on April 3rd and against Southern Indiana on April 4th at 12:00pm and 2:00pm each day. They have an away double header against Indiana Tech on April 6th.

Men's Tennis

The men's tennis team has four upcoming matches. First, they play away matches against Southern Indiana on April 2nd, Bellarmine on April 3rd, and IU Southeast on April 3rd. The next home competition is against St. Francis (IL) on April 6th. at 3:30pm.

Track & Field

The men and women's track and field teams travel to Eastern Illinois on April 2nd and to the Little State Championships on April 10th.





Great Sports Quotes

"The spirit, the will to win, and the will to excel are the things that endure. These qualities are so much more important than the events that occur."

Vince Lombardi, football coach

"Your opponent, in the end, is never really the player on the other side of the net, or the swimmer in the next lane, or the team on the other side of the field, or even the bar you must high-jump. Your opponent is yourself, your negative internal voices, your level of determination."

Grace Lichtenstein, writer and editor

 **Let's Go** 
 **Pumas!** 



Are you interested in writing for the sports page next year? Contact Sports Editor Bridget Newman at bnh3998@saintjoe.edu!

Madame Sandra's Horoscopes

Aries (March 21-April 19)

Now is a good time to work on achieving a personal goal you have set for yourself but may have put on the backburner recently. Working toward this goal now will prove to be extremely beneficial to your personal as well as professional self, and you will have much success in these two areas.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

If you find yourself in a heated debate soon, be sure to only state your opinions and beliefs if you are prepared to listen to the opinions of others around you. Failing to do so could hurt your reputation as an open-minded person greatly, so take care to keep an open mind and accept the ideas of others along with your own.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)

Have you been feeling unusually full of energy lately? Take advantage of this feeling by spending as much time with friends and family as possible. You will find the most personal fulfillment in social situations, so focus your extra energy on your relationships with others before anything else.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)

A recent lifestyle change has left you with a sense of freedom which you have not felt in a long time. This is the perfect time for you to turn your life in a new direction and take some risks that you have not been willing to take until now. Keep an open mind and you will be very successful in whatever you attempt.

Leo (July 23-August 22)

Have you recently been ignoring one of your personal relationships that is usually very important to you? Let this person know that you still care by surprising him or her with a visit. A phone call or email may be too impersonal, but taking the time to visit will remind them how much you really care.

Virgo (August 23-September 22)

If you've found yourself procrastinating and not putting forth your full efforts lately, it is time for you to reevaluate what is most important in your life and work hard to advance your goals in that area. Putting forth at least 100% of your energy is very important right now, so work hard and you will see good results.

Libra (September 23-October 23)

Keeping your lines of communication open is vital right now, as you may soon receive some unexpected news that will both surprise and delight you greatly. Don't close yourself off to anyone, even those to whom you are unlikely to speak, as this news may come from an unanticipated source.

Scorpio (October 24-November 21)

Even though it is not always your best asset, your charm and charisma will work especially well for you in a professional situation you will soon find yourself in. Be sure to turn on the charm and work your people-pleasing skills, and you will prove yourself to be a very competent and together person.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

Be careful with any financial transactions you might make right now, as you are likely to be more generous with your money than you should be. Anytime money is involved, be sure to consider the future and how much what you spend now will affect your financial situation down the road.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

Have you felt recently that everyone is pulling on you in several different directions? It seems that everyone wants your help, and you are feeling torn between your obligations to everyone. Remember that you cannot please everyone all the time, so do not feel bad if you have to turn someone down as they will understand your dilemma.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18)

You're feeling very productive and determined right now, so you will find much success in anything you set forth to accomplish. Your sense of determination is higher than it has ever been, so dive right into a complicated or time-consuming project that you have ahead of you now before this feeling passes.

Pisces (February 19-March 20)

Something you said or did in the past will come back soon to haunt you, and you will quickly realize that you may not have always behaved as you should have in the past. This will be a good revelation for you, as you will discover that there are some changes you need to make, and you will begin to change them!

You know you grew up in the 1980s and early 1990s if...

1. You've ever ended a sentence with the word "PSYCHE."
2. You watched the Pound Puppies.
3. You can sing the rap to the "Fresh Prince of Bel Air."
4. You wore biker shorts under your skirts and felt stylish.
5. You yearned to be a member of the Baby-Sitters Club and tried to start a club of your own.
6. You owned those little Strawberry Shortcake pals scented dolls.
7. You know that "WOAH" comes from Joey on Blossom.
8. Two words: M.C. Hammer.
9. If you ever watched "Fraggle Rock."
10. You had plastic streamers on your handle bars.
11. You can sing the entire theme song to "Duck Tales."
12. When it was actually worth getting up early on a Saturday to watch cartoons.
13. You wore a ponytail on the side of your head.
14. You saw the original "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" on the big screen.
15. You got super-excited when it was Oregon Trail day in computer class at school.
16. You made your mom buy one of those clips that would hold your shirt in a knot on the side.
17. You played the game "MASH" (Mansion, Apartment, Shelter, House).
18. You wore a Jordache jean jacket and you were proud of it.
19. L.A. Gear...
20. You wanted to change your name to "JEM" in Kindergarten.
21. You remember reading "Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing" and all the Ramona books. Ramona completed in 1st grade.
22. You know the profound meaning of "WAX ON, WAX OFF"
23. You wanted to be a Goonie.
24. You ever wore fluorescent clothing.
25. You can remember what Michael Jackson looked like before his nose fell off...
26. You have ever pondered why Smurfette was the only female smurf.
27. You took Lunch Pails to school.
28. You remember the CRAZE, then the BANNING of slap bracelets.
29. You still get the urge to say "NOT!" after every sentence.
30. You remember "I've fallen and I can't get up!"

Courtesy of http://japanupdate.com/forums/?do=search&action=individual&forum_id=24&id=21027

Chimadena

Can you solve these "Rebus" word puzzles? Each puzzle box portrays a common word or phrase. Answers appear at the bottom of the page.

Courtesy of <http://www.niehs.nih.gov/kids/braintpics.htm>

VA DERS

SJC Poet's Corner

A Plea to Passion

I am saying no
but my heart aches
for you.

Passion-let me be!
Away with his
sweet whispers
of words that
make me weak against
his nearness,
his hands that hold
my self-control,
and his gaze
that tells me
he wants more.

Please
let my lips
stop kissing,
let my arms
stop embracing,
let my eyes
look away from his,
let my heart
stop pounding.

Passion-allow my legs
to walk away and
let me ignore
what I'm not sure is
real.

-Natalie Lapacek

Come Darlin'

Come to me softly.
Come to me sweet.
Come by my side.
Come, let us meet.
By your side
I'll always be.
Holding you tight
Makes me free.
Free me Dear!
Free from strife
Free me Darlin'!
Free from life
On my mind
You are all day.
There you are
Guiding the way.
Giving me solace
Though you're in Lowell.
Giving me pleasure.
Making me whole
So, come to me Darlin'
For I need you to come.
Come nearer to me,
And again we'll be one.

-Kyle Bender

Tonight I Dream of Tomorrow

Tonight I dream of tomorrow.
Of my Darlin' whom I miss
A day of joy
For a happy boy
A day of perfect bliss.
Tonight I dream of tomorrow.
Its wonders never cease.
So, happy a man
To see my Ann
Whose grace I won't release.
Tonight I dream of Tomorrow.
Nothing can stand in the way
Of passion like ours
Love in the stars
Has united our souls this day.
Tonight I dream of tomorrow.
Missing my love is done
Dreams shall foresee
'Tis always to be
For her and I as one.

-Kyle Bender

Want to see your poetry in print?
Submit your original work of poetry to Sandra Wood at swh4014@saintjoe.edu!

ATTENTION STUDENTS:
Do you have an original poem, short story, or other creative expression that you would like to see printed on the Et Cetera page of The Observer? Please contact Sandra at swh4014@saintjoe.edu to submit your work.

Rebus puzzle answers (left to right): Made in China, space invaders